

STUDIES IN THE EUPATORIEAE (ASTERACEAE). CVII.

A NEW GENUS, ALOMIELLA.

R. M. King and H. Robinson
Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560.

Among the south american species previously placed in Alomia H.B.K. are representatives of numerous rather unrelated groups including species of Ageratum, Trichogonia and Acritopappus. Probably more misplaced than any of the preceding was a species from central Matto Grosso in Brazil that belonged to the distinctive Ayapana series. The latter species is the basis for the genus Alomiella described here.

The new genus is one of three monotypic Ayapanoid genera from the fringes of the Amazon Basin in Brazil all notable for a reduced pappus, glabrous stylar nodes and for variously papillose style branches. Of the three, Monogerion is very distinct in the tripartite leaves, the hairs inside of the corolla and the one very long pappus seta on each achene; Gymnocondylus is distinct by the five to ten pappus setae, the scarcely enlarged lower tier of carpopodial cells, and the slightly thickened style branches; Alomiella is distinct in the complete lack of pappus, the many fewer hairs on the outer surfaces of the corolla lobes, the few rather sclerotized papillae at the apices of the style branches, and the glabrous achenes. The three genera represent a complex in Brazil nearly as diverse as the distinctive Polyanthina, Isocarpha, and Ayapana (Lepidesmia) squarrosa-complex in the more northern parts of the range of the Ayapanoid series.

Alomiella R.M.King & H.Robinson, genus novum Asteracearum (Eupatorieae). Herbae perennes erectae vel decumbentes usque ad 30 cm altae paucae ramosae. Caules, folia, pedicellae et squamae exteriores involucri glandulis longiuscule stipitatis subdense obsitae. Folia opposita vel subopposita distincte petiolata, laminis late ovatis serratis, non glandulopunctatis. Inflorescentiae laxae cymosae. Involucri squamae 20-30 subimbricatae inaequilongae 3-seriatae oblongae breviter acutae; receptacula plana glabra. Flores ca. 40 in capitulo; corollae anguste infundibulares, lobis aequaliter triangularibus extus paucae setiferis, cellulis setarum saepe biseriatis,

nervis corollarum in partibus basilaribus valde incrassatis; filamenta antherum in parte inferiore brevibus in parte superiore brevioribus, cellulis inferioribus plerumque subquadratis superioribus longioribus, parietibus transverse annulate ornatis, cellulis exothecialibus subquadratis vel brevioribus, appendicibus aliquantum longioribus quam latioribus; styli inferne valde nodulosi glabri, appendicibus linearibus dense longe papillois; papillis apicalibus aliquantum induratis; achaenia prismatica 5-costata glabra; carpodia distincta breviter obturaculiformia, cellulis basilaribus oblongis, superioribus brevioribus, parietibus dense nodulosis; pappus nullus.

Species typica: Alomia regnellii Malme

The genus is monotypic.

Alomiella regnellii (Malme) R.M.King & H.Robinson,
comb. nov. Alomia regnellii Malme, Svendk. Vet.
Akad. Handl. 32, No. 5: 32. 1899. Brazil.

Acknowledgement

This study was supported in part by the National Science Foundation Grant GB 20502 A #1 and A #2 to the senior author.